

been most properly acquitted of murder. His Lordship added that he did not believe the doctor had any hand in killing the baby, though he had taken it away and hidden it for reasons which could be understood even if they were not forgivable by law. Moreover, the doctor would have to be dealt with by his own profession. He could not help but think that the doctor had had a lesson he would never forget. He awarded three days' imprisonment, a sentence which, as the defendant had been in custody for fifteen weeks, meant his immediate discharge.

### A JUDGE PRAISES A HOSPITAL

In trying a running-down action at Leeds Assizes, Mr. Justice Croom-Johnson<sup>1</sup> paid a tribute to hospitals in general and to the Nottingham General Hospital in particular. The action was brought by a man and his wife who had been injured when the car in which they were riding collided with an eight-wheeled motor lorry; they sued both drivers. The injured man was in Nottingham General Hospital for five months, and at first his life was despaired of. He had numerous cuts and lacerations of the scalp, face, arms, hands, and legs, and a compound fracture of the right thigh, for which at the time of the action he was wearing a calliper splint. His right eye was displaced, and it was feared that his limitation of vision might be permanent. It used to be part of his duties to view films, but he could no longer watch one for longer than a few minutes. The judge awarded him £4,550 damages and his wife £1,000. His Lordship said that the saving of this patient's life by the staff of the hospital was little short of a miracle. It showed the great debt which the public owed to hospitals and to that one in particular. Officers of the hospital might justifiably remember this patient with pride for what they had been able to do for him.

### A HARDSHIP OF BILLETING

The billeting of evacuated persons on householders in reception areas is a regrettable enough invasion of privacy, but a recent decision of the High Court adds to its burdens. A householder was served with a billeting notice requiring her to receive two children. They were at that time in quarantine after suffering from diphtheria. She refused to receive them, and appealed to the appropriate tribunal. Before the appeal could be heard the billeting officer prosecuted her. The magistrates considered that her appeal stayed the operation of the billeting notice; that since she was aggrieved and had complained to the tribunal the notice did not become operative until the complaint had been determined, and therefore she was not guilty. This must surely appear to most readers to be no more than common sense. The King's Bench Divisional Court, however, held otherwise.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Justice Hawke said that the regulations might show some signs of having been prepared in haste, but their meaning was perfectly clear. If a person failed to comply with the billeting notice he was guilty of an offence, whether he appealed or not. His lordship suggested that the Government may have to consider the greatest good of the greatest number: hardship might result if a notice was given and persisted in, but it might equally result if billeting was delayed pending an appeal. Mr. Justice Charles pointed out that there was no time limit for an appeal. The policy of the regulations, he said, was quite clear: to put tens of thousands of children into safety. In doing so someone might be asked here and there in unfortunate circumstances to give housing-room to children. Their lordships sent the case back to the magistrates to deal with afresh—not with a direction to convict.

On the wording of the regulations they obviously could not have come to any other conclusion, but the facts of this case call very strongly for a modification of that wording.

<sup>1</sup> *Manchester Guardian*, March 8.

<sup>2</sup> *Mee v. Toone*: 1940, 2 All E.R., 155.

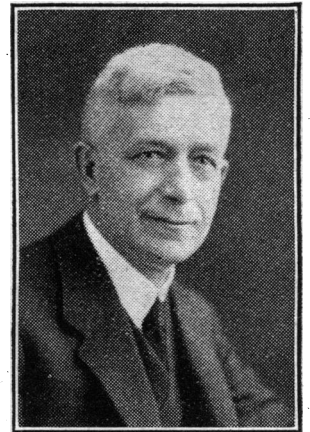
## Obituary

### HENRY DEVINE, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Late Medical Superintendent, Holloway Sanatorium

We much regret to announce the death on May 1 of Dr. Henry Devine, until lately medical superintendent of the Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, and before that in charge of the Portsmouth Mental Hospital. For many years he was a valued contributor and adviser to the *British Medical Journal* in psychological medicine.

Henry Devine, son of Alfred Cox Devine, was born on May 2, 1879, and from the Merchant Adventurers' School, Bristol, went on to study medicine at University College and at the General Hospital, Bristol, where he served as house-physician after taking the English Conjoint qualifications in 1902. He was an outstanding student at Bristol, and continued his education at Munich and at King's College, London. At the M.D. examination of the University of London in 1909 he won a gold medal in mental diseases, and in the following year received the M.D. degree of the new University of Bristol. He became M.R.C.P. in 1906, and was elected F.R.C.P. in 1919.



Devine's early interest in psychology led him to enter the L.C.C. asylum service at Long Grove Hospital; this was followed by appointment as senior assistant medical officer at the West Riding Asylum, Wakefield, and after that medical superintendent of the Portsmouth Corporation Mental Hospital (now St. James Hospital) at Milton, whence his reputation spread far and wide. This institution housed military patients during part of the last war, and its superintendent was appointed consulting psychiatrist to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, with the temporary rank of captain R.A.M.C., and received the O.B.E. in 1919 for his services. He was associated for many years with the Maudsley Hospital as lecturer in psychology, and the Royal College of Physicians appointed him an examiner for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine. At the Liverpool Meeting of the British Medical Association in 1912 Devine was honorary secretary of the Section of Neurology and Psychological Medicine, over which he presided in 1923 when the Association met in Portsmouth; and at the Centenary Meeting in 1932 he was vice-president of the Section of Mental Disorder. He was also a past-president of the Section of Psychiatry of the Royal Society of Medicine. In 1909 he had received the Gaskell gold medal and prize of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association; he became assistant editor of the *Journal of Mental Science* in 1916, and co-editor from 1920 to 1927.

In 1929 he published *Recent Advances in Psychiatry*, which formed a noteworthy addition to this well-known series. The outstanding feature of this book was its author's widely comprehensive survey of the subject and his search for a common factor in each of the numerous theories advanced towards a fuller understanding of

mental disease. He impressed on his readers the need for keeping in mind that the psychoses, like normal reactions, are the product of a number of mutually interrelated factors, both psychic and organic, and he demonstrated the various relationships existing between disordered states of mind and such factors as a psychopathic heredity, metabolic disturbances, organic diseases, obscure infections, endocrine disorders, and morbid changes in the cells of the brain. A second edition appeared in 1933 with many improvements and additions and in a somewhat rearranged form.

Henry Devine was not only a very able and enlightened administrator and man of intellect, widely read in all parts of his subject; he was deeply concerned for the patients under his care as fellow men and women in adversity. He had a singular gift of understanding, and radiated sympathy to those for whom he worked and those who worked with him. It can truly be said that he spent himself in the service of the mentally afflicted and in the advancement of psychological medicine both as a science and as a branch of the healing art.

[The photograph reproduced is by Elliott and Fry, Ltd.]

#### H. P. HAWKINS, D.M., F.R.C.P.

Consulting Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital

Dr. Herbert Pennell Hawkins, who died at Amiesmill Farm House, near Horsham, on April 16, was born in 1859 at Lamberhurst, where his father, the Rev. Robert Hawkins, was vicar. From Eton, where he was a King's scholar, he went on to Pembroke College, Oxford, with a scholarship. He gained first-classes in Classical Moderations and in Natural Science, graduated M.B., B.Ch. in 1887, and won the Radcliffe travelling fellowship, which took him for three years to Vienna. At St. Thomas's Hospital he held a number of house appointments before taking the M.R.C.P. in 1889, proceeding to the M.D. and being elected F.R.C.P. in 1894. He was appointed dean of the medical school in 1896 and soon afterwards lecturer in medicine and assistant physician to the hospital. During the last war, when St. Thomas's became No. 5 General Territorial Hospital, Hawkins was commanding officer with the rank of lieutenant-colonel (later brevet colonel), and for this service was created C.B.E. On retiring from the full staff of St. Thomas's he was elected consulting physician and went to live in Sussex.

Sir Cuthbert Wallace writes:

There are not many left who grew up with Hawkins, but the qualities of the man remain a clear memory with those who were first his pupils and eventually his junior colleagues. Very few people were endowed as he was. He had all the mental attributes to appraise the value of new ideas and put them to the best use. Many people have good brains but lack the ability to express their ideas clearly and succinctly. Hawkins had this power not only when it came to writing but in lecturing and demonstrating. His ability to make diagrams either on paper or with the chalks enabled him to impart what he wished to his classes, and after a demonstration his students had a clear and concise knowledge of the matter in hand. Although to a point a dogmatic teacher, Hawkins was always fully alive to the possibility that what seemed true to-day might be upset to-morrow, but he recognized that the young student requires a firm foundation and that the pros and cons were a matter for the more senior folk.

His work on appendicitis was a classic, and it is unfortunate that much that he wrote never saw the light, for he would abandon a subject after he had put quite a lot on paper. In fact his temperament was that found in many brilliant people who can do things so easily that they pass from one subject to another as the mood moves them. There came a time in his

career when the ball was at his feet. His advice was widely sought and highly appreciated and valued. Then he seemed to tire, and sought a peaceful night by disconnecting his telephone. The writer of this was a senior surgical house officer when Hawkins was at his zenith, and it fell to his lot to do surgical work for him from time to time. Memory brings back the clear statement of the case that was made and the great interest shown as, surrounded by his class, he watched the proceedings. Memory also brings back the dapper figure, his fresh face and happy smile.

When the last war came he assumed the post of O.C. to St. Thomas's war hospital. He entered on this new phase of his life with enthusiasm—it almost seemed that the break was very welcome. He never again engaged in practice. He went to the country and took up a country life with zest, and remarked one day that no day was long enough to do what had to be done. It may be said that the enthusiasm for such a life lasted longer than any other.

There must still be many doctors about that thank him for what he taught, how he taught, and for the advice and help he gave.

#### SIR GILBERT BARLING

Dr. R. Allan Bennett writes:

The memories of many of his old students and house-surgeons will be stirred by the obituary notice of Sir Gilbert Barling—meagre and tepid catalogue of academic virtues as it is. It gives no hint of the man himself, nor of the awe and affection he inspired in his followers and patients. I remember his first lecture after his appointment as professor (or was it only lecturer?) in surgery to the Birmingham School—an appointment that roused to frenzy the feelings of those of us who followed his great rival Mr. Jordan Lloyd. We were prepared to make things as awkward for him as we could, but one glance of that pontifical eye quelled the tumult almost before it was born.

Mr. Barling often came with his friend Bertram Windle to my father's house, and there, with George Brewerton, he delighted us with music and with song. He was a fine actor—indeed, I always thought of him linked with Squire Bancroft, whom he resembled not a little—and for years was a pillar of the Kyrle Society, and would sing, "Ah me! I was a pale young curate then," with great effect. His great quality was, I think, benignity. I never saw him ruffled; never knew him discourteous to a nurse or a resident. He was a great man and a great gentleman, and I like to offer this small tribute of affection to his shade.

We record with regret the death at Cheltenham on April 17 of Dr. CLARENCE BRIAN DOBELL, who had been a member of the British Medical Association since 1893. Dr. Dobell graduated M.B., C.M. at Edinburgh in 1893, M.D. (commended for thesis) in 1904, and became F.R.C.P.Ed. in 1918. He also took his M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., London, in 1894, studying at Edinburgh University and St. Bartholomew's. He first went to Tewkesbury Hospital and became assistant surgeon there, but he soon settled in Harrow, where he had an extensive practice. Early in 1915 he became medical superintendent, with the rank of lieutenant, R.A.M.C., of the Segregation Camp at Crown Hill, Egg Buckland, near Plymouth, where he did valuable work on cerebrospinal fever. Later in the year he went to the large prisoners of war camp at Stobs, in Scotland, to be principal medical officer, with the rank of major. Under his supervision the camp grew until it accommodated 1,200 prisoners, and was regarded as a model, not only for the treatment given there but also for the appearance of the camp, with grass and flower-beds where originally there had been nothing but rough and boggy hillside. Dobell left the Army at the end of the war and joined the medical assessors staff on the Ministry of Pensions in the autumn of 1919. A few months later he became Deputy Commissioner of Medical Services, Assessor for the Scotland Region of the Ministry of Pensions, his work covering the whole of Scotland. He carried

out any work he undertook with the completeness and efficiency which was his ideal, and with that originality which was so characteristic of him in all departments. He was a fine horseman, hunting regularly whenever opportunity offered, a first-rate shot, and a great country-lover. In his later years his chief relaxation was in taking country rambles, where very little of Nature escaped his observant eye. He was a great reader, and those who knew him well appreciated the wide scope of his reading and his unusually retentive memory. He rarely failed to provide an answer to questions on subjects so diverse as geology and comparative religion. With all these qualities he combined a keen sense of humour and a ready fund of anecdote; he was as delightful a visitor as he was a host. For the last two years Dobell's health had caused anxiety, in spite of periods when he was able to resume his normal activities. He bore the suffering and distress of his illness with unfaltering courage, and with meticulous consideration for those around him. He will be greatly missed by a very large number of friends.

We regret to announce the death at the age of 86 of Professor PIERRE MARIE, the eminent Paris neurologist, who first described acromegaly (1886), progressive muscular atrophy of the Charcot-Marie-Tooth type (1886), pseudo-hypertrophic pulmonary osteo-arthritis (1890), congenital cerebellar ataxia (1893), rhizomelic spondylosis (1898), and cleido-cranial dysostosis (1898). He was also the author of a work on diseases of the spinal cord (1892), which, like his articles on acromegaly, was translated into English in the New Sydenham's Society's publications. In 1906 appeared his three sensational and iconoclastic papers in the now defunct *Semaine Médicale*, in which he denied that the third left frontal convolution played a special part in the function of language. He was elected professor of morbid anatomy in 1907 in succession to Cornil. His work at the Bicêtre infirmary made that establishment almost as famous as La Salpêtrière had been made by Charcot, whose most brilliant pupil he had been. His most important papers were collected in *Travaux et Mémoires* (1926 and 1928). Professor Marie was a Commander of the Legion of Honour, and was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1896 when that body was the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

The summer dinner of the Oxford Graduates' Medical Club will be held at Magdalen College on Friday, June 28, at 7.45 for 8 p.m., with Dr. W. D. Sturrock in the chair.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

#### Final M.B. Examination

The dates of examination of candidates for the Final M.B. are as follows: Part I (Surgery, Midwifery, and Gynaecology), June 11, 14, and 15; Part II (Principles and Practice of Physic, Pathology, and Pharmacology), June 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following appointments to the Senate for the period 1940-4 have been made:

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.—Professor F. R. Fraser, M.D., F.R.C.P. (reappointed).

GENERAL MEDICAL SCHOOLS.—Sir Charles Wilson, M.D., F.R.C.P. (reappointed).

CO-OPTED BY SENATE.—Viscount Dawson of Penn, P.C., G.C.V.O., M.D., F.R.C.P. (reappointed).

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

#### Lord Athlone an Honorary Fellow

The Earl of Athlone paid a visit on April 30 to the Royal College of Surgeons of England to receive the diploma of Honorary Fellow of the College. He was received by the

President, Mr. Hugh Lett, and the Vice-Presidents, Sir Robert Kelly and Sir James Walton, and had lunch in the College with the members of the Council. After lunch he signed the Roll and was admitted formally to the Honorary Fellowship.

In presenting the diploma the President expressed appreciation of all that the Earl of Athlone has done for the country and the Empire, of his success in South Africa, and his forthcoming post of Governor-General of Canada. He paid tribute to his interest in education, particularly postgraduate medical education, nursing, and the hospitals. In the Royal College of Surgeons he has been a Trustee of the Hunterian Collection for seventeen years, he performed the opening of the Bernhard Baron Laboratories in December, 1937, and has been present at Hunterian Festivals. Finally the President pronounced the words of admission: "In the name of and by the authority of the Royal College of Surgeons of England I hereby admit you an Honorary Fellow thereof."

Lord Athlone in reply expressed his gratification at receiving the Honorary Fellowship. It was a source of particular satisfaction to him, as he had been associated with members of the Council and other Fellows of the College in his activities connected with hospital administration, nursing, and postgraduate teaching. He had become a Trustee of the Hunterian Collection at the time when he was Chairman of the Middlesex Hospital, a member of whose staff, Dr. William Hunter, had been instrumental in bringing his brother John Hunter to London.

The following were present at the luncheon, in addition to Lord Athlone, the President, and Vice-Presidents: Sir Cuthbert Wallace, Mr. W. Sampson Handley, Mr. A. H. Burgess, Mr. Victor Bonney, Mr. G. Grey Turner, Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, Surgeon Rear-Admiral G. Gordon-Taylor, Colonel Sir Charles Gordon-Watson, Mr. R. C. Elmslie, Mr. H. S. Souttar, Sir Girling Ball, Mr. W. H. Ogilvie, Surgeon Rear-Admiral Cecil P. G. Wakeley, Mr. L. E. C. Norbury, and Mr. Cecil A. Joll, Members of Council; Mr. Kennedy Cassels, Secretary; Mr. Horace H. Rew, Director of Examinations; and Mr. W. F. Davis, Assistant Secretary.

#### Lectures on Applied Physiology

On May 2 the Royal College of Surgeons inaugurated a new series of lectures on physiology as applied to medical and surgical problems. The first lecture was given by Professor R. J. MacDowall of King's College, London, on "The Circulation in Shock." This was followed on May 9 by a lecture by Professor E. D. Adrian, F.R.S., of Cambridge, on "Pain," and on May 16 Professor A. D. Macdonald of Manchester will lecture on "Spinal Anaesthesia." These lectures are designed to bring the results of laboratory investigations to the attention of clinicians and senior students of medicine.

### CONJOINT BOARD IN SCOTLAND

The following candidates, having passed the final examination, have been admitted L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S.Ed., and L.R.F.P. & S.Glas.:

M. Aly, Mary C. Clay, M. Coken, J. H. C. Corr, W. P. Forrest, R. H. Georges, A. N. Godholm, J. C. Greenfield, D. B. Handelman, G. I. Heron, Ellen B. Ho-A-Yun, H. Holzer, E. Iskander, G. Iskander, M. Kanagaratnam, P. J. McGinley, A. E. McKay, A. J. MacQuillan, D. I. C. Milton, S. H. Myers, J. G. Palin, L. Phillips, C. M. Ramakrishna, W. Rapoport, E. Z. T. Salama, J. H. P. Stewart, W. F. J. M. Thom, B. C. Weerappah.

The following graduates of recognized universities, having passed the final examination, were also admitted L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P. & S.Glas.:

H. G. J. Herxheimer, E. Hohenberg, E. C. Kalmar.

The number of deaths reported to London coroners in 1939 was 9,158, inquests being held in 3,172 cases. The number of suicides, 552, was forty-two fewer than in 1938; of the number, 187 were of persons over 60 years of age. People who met their deaths by accident numbered 1,750, or 157 more than in 1938; sixty deaths resulted from injury, and fifty-seven from drowning; in three cases a verdict of murder was returned, in four cases a verdict of manslaughter, and five inquests were held in connexion with executions. A verdict of "death from natural causes" was returned in 519 cases, and there were nine verdicts of "cause of death unknown." Twenty-four deaths of newly born children were found to be due to want of attention at birth. The number of deaths due to excessive drinking was seventy-seven.